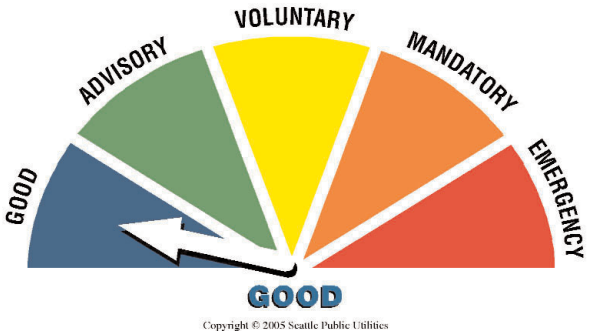
Seattle Public Utilities

Leak!

September 27, 2005

INFORMATION UPDATE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Newsletters/index.asp



Water Supply Outlook

Our water supply situation and outlook are good. Over the last 7 days no precipitation was measured in either of our watersheds. Water storage levels in our mountain reservoirs remain good as we enter into the fall season.

Regulated streamflows in both the S.F. Tolt and Cedar rivers downstream of our reservoirs are being held slightly above guaranteed normal levels for this time of the year. Chester Morse Lake is at elevation 1550.1 feet, down approximately 0.2 feet from last week, and about 1.2 feet above its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2004) for this time of the year.

The South Fork Tolt Reservoir is at elevation 1735.9 feet, down about 2.3 feet from last week, and 6.9 feet below its long-term average. Water consumption for the 7-day period last week averaged approximately 146 mgd. That is close to the 139 mgd consumed during the same period last year, and less than the average of 163 mgd used during the same period over the years 1994-2000. To help ensure sufficient water supply for fish and people it is important to continue to use water wisely. To learn more about saving water, please visit **www.savingwater.org**.

Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual & Coliform Data from August 2005

There were no positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during August 2005. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.3 to 1.0 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.7 mg/L. The target chlorine residual at the Tolt Treatment facility is 1.5 mg/L and the Cedar target residual is 1.4 mg/L. Lake Forest Park Reservoir outlet chlorine target was increased from 0.9 to 1.0 mg/L.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is meeting every other week. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) samples in August were 1.6 and 1.1, and they were described as slightly chlorinous. The two Tolt supply results were 1.4 and 1.5 with a chlorinous taste. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at **moya.joubert@seattle.gov**.

Lead and Copper

Sample collection for the second round of lead and copper samples for 2005 is continuing

through mid October. Purveyors are reminded to pick up bottles the week before they are scheduled to bring in samples.

SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.

Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at http://www.savingwater.org
Rebates available for sprinkler system inspections and upgrades. Utilities participating in the Saving Water Partnership currently offer three rebates:

- **Rebate #1 – Existing Sprinkler System.** Provides between $100 to $450 to upgrade your existing automatic sprinkler system with a Rain Sensor, Conservation Controller, Evapotranspiration Controller or Soil Moisture Sensors.

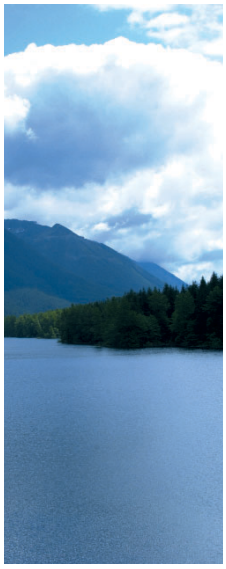
- **Rebate #2 – New Sprinkler System.** Provides $50 when you install an Evapotranspiration (ET) Controller or Soil Moisture Sensors as part of a new sprinkler system.

Rebates for Commercial & Multifamily Properties

- **Rebate #3 - Commercial / Multifamily.** In addition to Rebates #1 and #2 above, owners of commercial and multifamily properties may qualify for rebates on system improvements with an assessment.

For more information on each of the rebates, please see Service Requirements & Product Specifications. For a list of participating water providers see **http//www.savingwater.org**.

The rebate programs are open to owners of residential, commercial, and multifamily properties. To qualify for a rebate, all work must be done by landscape or irrigation contractors licensed in the state of Washington. The work must be completed and rebate application received by December 1, 2005.



Climate Change and Water Resources

A Workshop for Municipal Water Providers

October 3, 2005
9:00am – 1:00pm
Bertha Knight Landes Room - Seattle City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue - Seattle, WA

Climate change is quickly emerging as one of the more challenging issues facing the world today. Please join us in a workshop that will focus on the impact of climate change on water resources and how regional utility managers / policy makers can factor these changes into their operations and long-term planning.

Featured Guest:
Dr. Kathleen Miller will present the results of the National Center for Atmospheric Research's recently released report Climate Change and Water Resources: A Primer for Municipal Water Providers. This ground-breaking report provides an overview for water suppliers regarding the science, projected results and scenarios, and downscaling concepts used by the scientific community to evaluate climate change impacts on water resources. Dr. Miller is the co-author of the report, which was sponsored by the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) and the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR). The report can be found at:
www.isse.ucar.edu/water_conference/fulltext/primer8_19_high.pdf

Workshop Topics:

- What is climate change and how do we know what's happening?
- How does climate change affect regional water supplies?
- How can we apply science and tools to water operations and planning?
- Where do we go from here?

Registration:

To register please email or call Sharon Regala, (206) 386-4560, **Sharon.Regala@seattle.gov**. There is no charge for attendance, but please register in advance. Light refreshments will be served. Directions are available upon request.

Sponsored by:
Everett Public Works, Seattle Public Utilities and Tacoma Water

Fish News

Sockeye and Chinook salmon are spawning in the Cedar. Chinook should start spawning soon in the Tolt system. Sockeye spawning typically peaks in mid- to late October and continues into January. Chinook spawning typically peaks in early to mid-October and continues through early to mid-November.

Young coho salmon and steelhead trout continue to rear in both rivers. Most coho and steelhead rear for one to two years in freshwater prior to migrating to sea. Adult summer-run steelhead continue to hold in the Tolt system. Many of these fish will spend the summer and fall in the upper reaches of the South Fork Tolt River where they will spawn next winter and spring Adult sockeye salmon migration through the Ballard Locks facilities is complete. The migration of adult Chinook salmon at the locks is almost complete Adult coho salmon continue to move through the locks into Lake Washington. Coho entry at the locks usually peaks during the third or fourth week in September. Coho begin to enter the Cedar and other tributaries to the lake in early October; spawning activity is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February.

The migration of adult Chinook salmon through the locks is nearly complete. Tribal biologists estimate that approximately 7200 adult Chinook had passed into the lake by September 21. Counts of Chinook increased during late August and early September, but still lag behind last year's counts. Coho salmon continue to move through the locks. Tribal biologists began counting adult coho on September 1 and estimate that, as of September 21, approximately 8400 coho had passed through the locks facilities into Lake Washington. Coho entry at the locks usually peaks during the third or fourth week in September. Coho begin to enter the Cedar and other tributaries to the lake in early October. Spawning activity is believed to peak in November or December and continues into February. Juvenile coho, steelhead and resident trout continue to rear in the system. Most coho and steelhead are believed to rear in the tributaries and mainstem for one to two years before migrating to sea. These young fish are vulnerable to stranding during flow downramping events.

The primary concerns for instream flow management are:

#1 spawning and incubation conditions for Chinook and sockeye; and
#2 rearing conditions for juvenile coho, steelhead and resident trout.

NOTICE:

to all of our Wholesale Customers

In order to comply with Mayor Nickels' "Paper Cuts" initiative, this will be the last issue of the Leak! to be printed and distributed by US Mail. Starting in October, the Leak! will only be available in electronic, PDF format. You may receive the Leak! by being added to the electronic distribution list or by accessing the Leak! through the SPU website. To be added to the electronic distribution list, please e-mail your name, number and e-mail address to Erin Lahti at **Erin.Lahti@Seattle.gov**.
To access the Leak! via the internet, go to
http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Newsletters/index.asp

"Recycling is good, using less is better. Our citizens look to us to be an example of conservation. We can lead the way to creating a sustainable future. For each 1% (739,000 sheets) we reduce our paper use, the City can save: $2,882, 62 trees, 7,000 lbs. of solid waste, and 64,600 gallons of water."

If there are wholesale customers that need a hardcopy version, please feel free to print a copy from the PDF version.

Seattle Public Utilities

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